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Planet; eight to Temperature; eight to Moisture; ten to Cyclones and Anticyclones; twelve to Miscellaneous Climatic Phenomena; three to Common Minerals and Rocks; one to The Contour Map; thirty-one to Weathering, Streams and Stream Valleys; thirty-three to Land Forms, due to structure; fifteen to Glaciation; twelve to Lakes; eleven to The Ocean; eleven to Shore Lines and Forms; twelve to Harbors; nine to Soils; and seventeen to Typical Areas.

As this outline of the contents indicates, the volume follows largely the plan of procedure in teaching physical geography in our high schools and colleges for the last fifteen years, but from which many of our colleges and normal schools and some of our high schools are breaking away. The exercises call largely for a formal and mechanical study of maps, deadening to pupils except where the teacher is a master.

Considering the emphasis that has been given increasingly to the human side of physical geography in the last five years, it is more than disappointing to find so little attention given in the outlines, to the human and life responses found in various physical areas. This disappointment is increased when one realizes that the author, by his other writings and in practice, has shown that the life side is most interesting and vital to him. Yet rarely is a suggestion of the life conditions mentioned under the land forms, and this phase is more emphasized under the topics dealing with the ocean than those dealing with the land areas.

We have had many manuals of physical geography, of which this is the most inclusive but not the most severe that has thus far appeared. The country is waiting with more than eagerness for a guide that will show how to develop strong laboratory work in reference to the broad geographic study of areas and types of land forms. Such a volume will blaze a new path in a thicket which many are trying to enter; the volume under consideration is the latest guide for a broad road that has developed from a trail in the last fifteen years. It is a suggestive book for those who would teach de-humanized physical geography (as the author could not do), but such work is rapidly yielding to humanized physical geography, even for those who are training to be specialists in the field.

R. E. DODGE.

**Geographical Essays.** By William Morris Davis. Edited by Douglas Wilson Johnson. vi and 777 pp., 130 Figures and Index. Ginn & Company, Boston, 1909. \$2.75.

The republication in a convenient and welcome form of the chief essays on geography and geography teaching from Professor William Morris Davis, renders available for workers in the field many important papers that have hitherto been relatively inaccessible. Whether the interested worker is a specialist in the study of the genetic development of land forms or a worker in attempting to make the results of experts available in education, he must constantly refer to the work of Professor Davis and this volume will therefore be a treasury of valuable geographical materials to him.

The volume contains twenty-six essays of which twelve are entitled Educational Essays, and the remainder Physiographic Essays. The Educational Essays are largely devoted to the exploitation of the availability of physical geography for school and college work, and the arguments they include have been a large force in securing the place that physical geography has grown into in our higher

schools in the last fifteen years. It is significant that the latest article on physical geography included in the volume originally appeared in 1902 and that the article given first prominence in the volume, and dated 1906, gives less emphasis to physical geography and more to the wider outlook on geography from an educational standpoint that is constantly becoming more prominent in theory and practice.

The larger portion of the volume is devoted to the physiographic essays, several of which in their original appearance were epoch making and now classic standards. In order of appearance, and this order is roughly a history of the development of the physiography of the lands as a science, we have *The Rivers and Valleys of Pennsylvania* (1889); *The Rivers of Northern New Jersey*, with notes on the Classification of Rivers in General (1890); *Plains of Marine and Sub-Aërial Denudation* (1896); *The Seine, The Meuse, and The Moselle* (1896); *The Geographical Cycle* (1899); and *The Peneplain* (1899), followed by several others up to 1906. Those listed above, however, represent the several steps in the development of the modern accepted theory of land development and are basal in any study of the subject.

The volume is attractively printed, conveniently indexed and presented in a form worthy of the cause and the author.

R. E. DODGE.

**Geschichte der Erde und des Lebens.** Von Johannes Walter, o. ö., Professor der Geologie und Palaeontologie an der Universität Halle. iv and 570 pp., and 355 Illustrations. Veit & Co., Leipzig, 1908. M. 14.

Persons who suspect geology of being a dry study ought to read this book. While the lay reader will find it fascinating, the scientist is compelled to admire the wonderful simplicity, clearness and unity of this presentation of our present knowledge of the beginnings and history of the globe, based upon the combined results of the earth sciences in the widest meaning of the term. A book like this is not a handbook proper nor a mere reference work however rich in references it actually is; it is a recreation of the matter itself through the scientific and artistic genius of its author.

In some aspects it reminds one of Suess's "Face of the Earth," without being so romantic; it restricts itself to what we, nowadays, accept as facts but arranges them in any way which leads thought beyond them. Little can be said about such a book in the way of introduction or criticism.

Its thirty chapters deal with (1) the properties of the earth; (2) geological forces; (3) the place of the earth in the solar system; (4) the formation of the moon and meteorites; (5) the formation, and subsequent changes, of the earth's crust; (6) the world ocean; (7) organic life; (8) atmosphere and climate; (9) the eruptive processes of the deep; (10) volcanism; (11) the development of earth history; (12) geological chronology; (13) the lower limit of the occurrence of fossils; (14) the traces of an Algonkian period; (15) the Cambrian; (16) halcyon days of animal development in the Silurian; (17) the old red Northland; (18) the Devonian Ocean; (19) the "Productus" seas; (20) the folding of the earth's crust and the formation of coal; (21) Godwanaland; (22) the Triassic seas; (23) the struggle of the northern desert with the Triassic seas; (24) the Jurassic seas; (25) the development of reptiles in North America; (26) the Cretaceous period and the great sway of death; (27) the Tertiary period;